



COUNCIL FOR THE INDIAN SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

Pragati House, 3rd Floor, 47-48, Nehru Place, New Delhi – 110019

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PV/Specimen/X-XII/2026-2027

July 24, 2025

To: Heads of Schools presenting candidates for ICSE and ISC Year 2026 Examinations and ICSE and ISC Year 2027 Examination.

Subject: Release of Specimen Question Papers in select subjects for ICSE Year 2026 Examination, ISC Year 2026 Examination, ICSE (Class IX) Academic Year 2025 – 2026, ISC (Class XI) Academic Year 2025 – 2026 and Question Papers of the ICSE and ISC Year 2025 Main and Improvement Examinations.

Dear Principal,

In continuance of our efforts to foster strong teaching-learning practices that align with the imperatives of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP), CISCE is releasing the Specimen Question Papers and Answer Keys in select subjects for ICSE Year 2026, ISC Year 2026, ICSE (Class IX) Academic Year 2025 – 2026 and ISC (Class XI) Academic Year 2025 – 2026 Examinations.

Following the NEP 2020 recommendations, the weightage ascribed to the questions assessing competencies such as Application, Analysis, Interpretation, and Evaluation is approximately 40% for the Year 2026 Examination.

The Specimen Question Papers and Answer Keys in the select subjects have been made available / will be made available on the CAREERS Portal and on the website of CISCE:

A. ICSE (Class X) Year 2026 Examination

The Specimen Question Papers and the corresponding Answer Keys for the **ICSE (Class X) Year 2026 Examination** have been released for the following subjects:

S. NO.	SUBJECT/PAPER	S. NO.	SUBJECT/PAPER
1.	English Language (English Paper 1) (Only Sample questions on Letter writing, Notice and Email writing)	7.	Biology (Science Paper 3)
2.	History & Civics (H.C.G. Paper 1)	8.	Basic Data Entry Operator
3.	Geography (H.C.G. Paper 2)	9.	Dietetic Aide
4.	Mathematics	10.	Cashier
5.	Physics (Science Paper 1)	11.	Early Years Physical Activity Facilitator
6.	Chemistry (Science Paper 2)	12.	Auto Service Technician

For the remaining subjects, the format of the Question Paper will remain the same as followed in the ICSE Year 2025 Examination.

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B. ICSE (Class IX) Academic Year 2025-2026

CISCE has introduced a new subject for the ICSE Year 2027 Examination. Therefore, the Specimen Question Paper and the corresponding Answer Key for this subject will be released as per the date given below:

S. NO.	SUBJECT	DATE OF RELEASE
1.	Bhutia (Second Language)	August 8, 2025

C. ISC (Class XII) Year 2026 Examination

The Specimen Question Papers and the corresponding Answer Keys for the ISC (Class XII) Year 2026 Examination have been released for the following subjects:

S. NO.	SUBJECT
1	Sociology
2	Business Studies
3	Mathematics
4	Mass Media & Communication

D. ISC (Class XII) Year 2026 Examination

The Specimen Question Papers and the corresponding Answer Keys for the ISC (Class XII) Year 2026 Examination for the following subjects will be released as per the dates given below:

S. NO.	SUBJECT	DATES OF RELEASE
5	Psychology	July 26, 2025
6	Commerce	
7	Biology	
8	Geography	July 30, 2025
9	Accounts	
10	Physics	
11	Chemistry	July 31, 2025
12	Legal Studies	
13	Khasi	August 8, 2025

For the remaining subjects, the format of the Question Paper will remain the same as followed in the ISC Year 2025 Examination.

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E. ISC (Class XI) Academic Year 2025 - 2026

CISCE has introduced a few new subjects for the ISC Year 2027 Examination, and has revised the syllabus for a few subjects, therefore the Specimen Question Papers and the corresponding Answer Keys for these subjects have been made available for the ISC (Class XI) Academic Year 2025 – 2026:

S. NO.	SUBJECT/PAPER
1	Modern English (Literature in English) - New Subject
2	Elective English - Revised Syllabus
3	Mathematics - Revised Syllabus
4	Applied Mathematics - New Subject

The Specimen Question Papers and the corresponding Answer Keys for the **ISC (Class XI) Academic Year 2025 – 2026** Examination for the following subjects will be released as per the date given below:

S. NO.	SUBJECT/PAPER	DATE OF RELEASE
5	Artificial Intelligence - New Subject	August 8, 2025
6	Robotics - New Subject	

The Specimen Question Papers have been designed to help all stakeholders understand the structure of the Question Papers in the subjects concerned and should be used as a practice tool. The intent is to provide a realistic purview of the format of the Board Examination Question Paper and familiarise the teaching-learning community with the **number of sections and questions, types of questions, marks allocated, choices offered, and competencies assessed** in the subject.

Please note that the Questions Papers for the Board Examination may not necessarily replicate the Specimen Question Papers as individual questions may vary. However, the weightage allocated to certain topics in subjects concerned (applicable only for ISC), as given in the Regulations and Syllabuses for the given year of the examination, would be adhered to.

F. Question Papers of the ICSE and ISC Year 2025 Main and Improvement Examinations

The Question Papers administered for the ICSE and ISC Year 2025 Main and Improvement Examinations have been made available on the CISCE website: www.cisce.org

You are requested to circulate this information among all concerned.

For further clarification, you may contact CISCE at council@cisce.org

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


Dr. Joseph Emmanuel
Chief Executive & Secretary